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11 May 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conference with Director of Behavioral Sciences, ARPA

1. The conference with Lt. Col. Austin Kibler, title as indicated above, was held at my request as a follow-on to our discussions at the ARPA utilization conference on 4 - 5 May.*

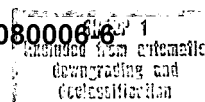
2. I indicated at the start my interest in learning of the scope of ARPA activity in the behavioral sciences and particularly in political science, since I felt the ARPA program could be linked to improved methodologic tools for the improvement of intelligence production. Col. Kibler said that the summary of six projects disseminated to attendees at last week's conference represented the bulk of the political science program. In addition, there is a basic research project being conducted by Ward Edwards, University of Michigan, on the application of Bayesian techniques to decision-making, title of the proposal is "Research in the Technology of Inference and Decision." ARPA is also sponsoring the DELPHI project originally started at RAND and now moved to Gerald Shure's laboratory at UCLA. Work on gaming and simulation by Shubert and Brown at RAND was also being sponsored by ARPA.

3. Col. Kibler indicated that when he succeeded Davis Bobrow at ARPA, the political science program amounted to \$840,000, all in basic research. Col. Kibler (an Experimental Psychologist) has attempted to focus more on an applied program, including support for [redacted] in DIA, development of political science curriculum packages for the National War College and Army War College and the work on intelligence indicators done by Ted Rubin of CACI.

4. In addition, ARPA has sponsored a 1.2 million-dollar annual contract for the development of computer technologies in the CAMBRIDGE project and has provided \$900,000 for the Center for Computer Based Behavioral Studies operated by Prof. Shure at UCLA. Capital investment for this Center has been completed and annual financing is now down to \$400,000. This project has attracted attention from the Rome Air Development Center and the Senectics Corporation will have a contract to link the Shure data with indicator and warning problems of interest to RADC.

* A memorandum on the conference was sent to Mr. Tweedy 8 May.

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5. Col. Kibler indicated he had hoped last week's conference would have provided him with some clear indication as to where behavioral sciences program funds should be applied. The conference did not produce this answer, however, so Col. Kibler now proposes to award a six-months contract (probably to Franz J. Mogdis, Office of National Security Studies, Bendix Aerospace Systems Division, Ann Arbor, Michigan) to develop a typology of research needs. He expects this project could get underway about August.

6. Dr. Mogdis did the triad study of US-Sino-Soviet relationships for the Hqs USAF Office of Concepts, Objectives and Doctrine.

7. I suggested that a task group of representatives from major intelligence production organizations could define the kinds of problems on which basic applied research would be of value as a means of improving the analytic methodologies used in intelligence production.

8. Col. Kibler said that ARPA would welcome such participation but, in addition, it would be necessary for the contract researcher to have direct contact with producers so he could understand what they do and what their problems are and thereby be able to translate these problems into researchable issues.

9. Col. Kibler indicated that ARPA would pursue this project within the Department of Defense whether or not the intelligence community participated, but that he hoped an intelligence task group would participate actively.

10. He emphasized the contract researcher would be cleared for whatever security level was called for and he stressed that success of the project would depend in large part on the frankness with which problem areas susceptible to support by research projects were thoroughly discussed.

11. I advised him I hoped to participate actively in this project myself but that my principal staff officer on it would be Franklyn Walter.

12. Col. Kibler indicated that he has considerable flexibility in his funds at present but that this flexibility will be lost for FY 73 by December of this year, which is why he wants to conduct the survey as soon as contract arrangements can be made. He considers it will take about two weeks to formalize the proposal and about six weeks to finalize the contract.



Chief, PRG/IC

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